



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

Cynthia Bridges
Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

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Funding for County Property Tax Assessors Up for Discussion BOE and County Assessors to Consider State-Local Disconnect that Impacts School Funding

Sacramento – The importance of adequate local government funding will be the main topic of the Board of Equalization's (BOE) annual meeting with the state's 58 county assessors on November 15, 2012 at 1:30 p.m., at BOE headquarters in Sacramento, announced Board Chairman Jerome E. Horton. County assessors lack the resources to properly administer local property tax laws which strains school districts, as well as state and local budgets.

"It is important that the BOE support our state's property tax assessors to help them secure adequate funding to do their jobs, said Chairman Horton. "Providing necessary resources to county assessors will assist in providing proper funding for our schools with the least strain on our state and local budgets."

The assessors from Santa Barbara, Santa Clara and Stanislaus Counties are the scheduled panelists for the discussion. They will explore how state law allows counties to recover property tax administrative costs from local agencies except school districts, and how this inability creates a funding gap for counties. This gap reduces assessors' ability to adequately perform their duties, and in turn, the amount of revenue the counties are able to collect, and this shortfall impacts the state's general fund in that state dollars must then make up the difference in public school funding.

The [BOE overview paper](#) for the upcoming meeting discusses this funding issue in greater depth.

In addition to the property tax administration funding panel, assessors will hear opening remarks from the president-elect of the California County Assessors' Association, Amador County Assessor James Rooney; will be introduced to the BOE's Executive Director Cynthia Bridges; and will receive an update on the embedded software property tax issue that was discussed at last year's annual meeting with assessors.

State law requires the BOE to meet with assessors at least once a year to discuss issues relating to the administration of property assessment and taxation laws.

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Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization's Legislative Committee Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$53.7 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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